TRANSLATION NOTES (part 1)

A few observations based on the old man's diary in the game and chapter 25 of Visions of V. The slight difference I first noticed is that in the diary, the old man apparently found out that Vergil has a younger twin brother when Vergil proceeded to write his name on the book he received, while in the manga the old man apparently heard of "the younger brother" before", because he said:
"Even though you grew up together…
Do you not like playing with your younger brother?"

And another thing is that in the manga, Vergil said "my little brother always tries to take my things", while in the diary it says:
"we always fight over things", so there he says "we", while in the manga, to me it makes sound like he is saying that it's mostly Dante who does this sort of thing, to take things away, while it makes Vergil sound like he is more behaved, but like we know that's not so true xD

Decades later

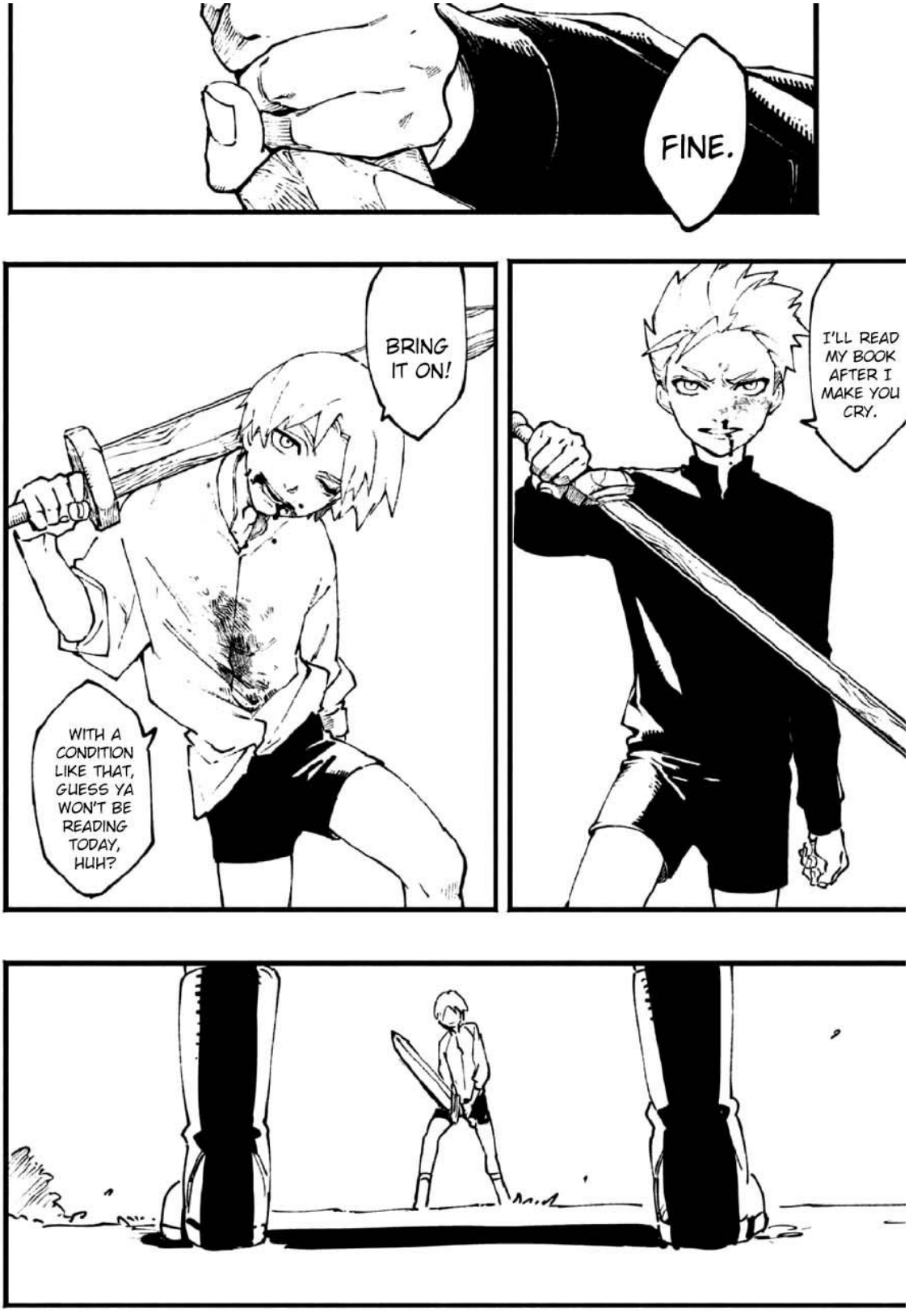
"Give that to me.
No way, you got your own.
Well I want yours too."

" If you want it, then you'll have to take it. But you already knew that"

Another thing I wanna mention is something about Vergil which I kept in my translation, like maybe some have this image of him being a well-spoken, respectful child but when he asked the old man for the pen, he didn't have his line written as ペンを貸してください for example, which sounds polite it has "please" there. He spoke informally despite talking with an elderly person, so I wanted to reflect that in the translation.

Also related to this part is the fact that in the chapter we were shown that Vergil drew the V on the cover, but that's certainly not an ordinary pen, I mean, in the diary, it said that Vergil opened the back cover and wrote his name, and we assumed that he got the personalized leather cover with golden V and details later, but in the manga chapter, he drew the V himself.

Moving on, there's something I wanted to make clear for you readers, since I have asked about this and got to hear opinions.
In case some wondered what I meant for the line Dante says here.


FINE.
BRING IT ON!
WITH A CONDITION LIKE THAT, GUESS YA WON'T BE READING TODAY, HUH?
I'LL READ MY BOOK AFTER I MAKE YOU CRY.

By “condition” I meant “prerequisite”. I want you to know because some people thought it meant “state”, as in Vergil might not have been at his best condition to fight. I mentioned this to make it clear that it’s the former meaning.

Moving on!

Dante had a line in this chapter which he said twice, but I did not translate it the same each time. Sometimes I would do this, sometimes not. That’s why I make notes :)

The reason why I wanted to write about this line is that it tells something about their relationship, from Dante’s perspective.

Alright, so Dante said this phrase: そうこなくっちゃ (sou konakucha) and in my translation of the chapter I gave two interpretations: “Just as I thought…” (on the 3rd page where Dante said the first time), and for the one in this image, I wrote “Now you’re talking!” So, this phrase that he used can be interpreted in the ways mentioned above or another common translation is “That’s the spirit” or “That’s what I wanted to hear”, “That’s more like it” there are quite a few ways to interpret.

Thus, we saw in the chapter that Dante was happy that his expectation was met when Vergil took a strike at him, thus believing he conceded to play with him.
(“Ha, I knew you were gonna play!” [Hehe, just as I thought…]

It’s used to express excitement about the actions or suggestions of another individual (often living up to their expectation).

Fwmp
NOW YOU'RE TALKING!

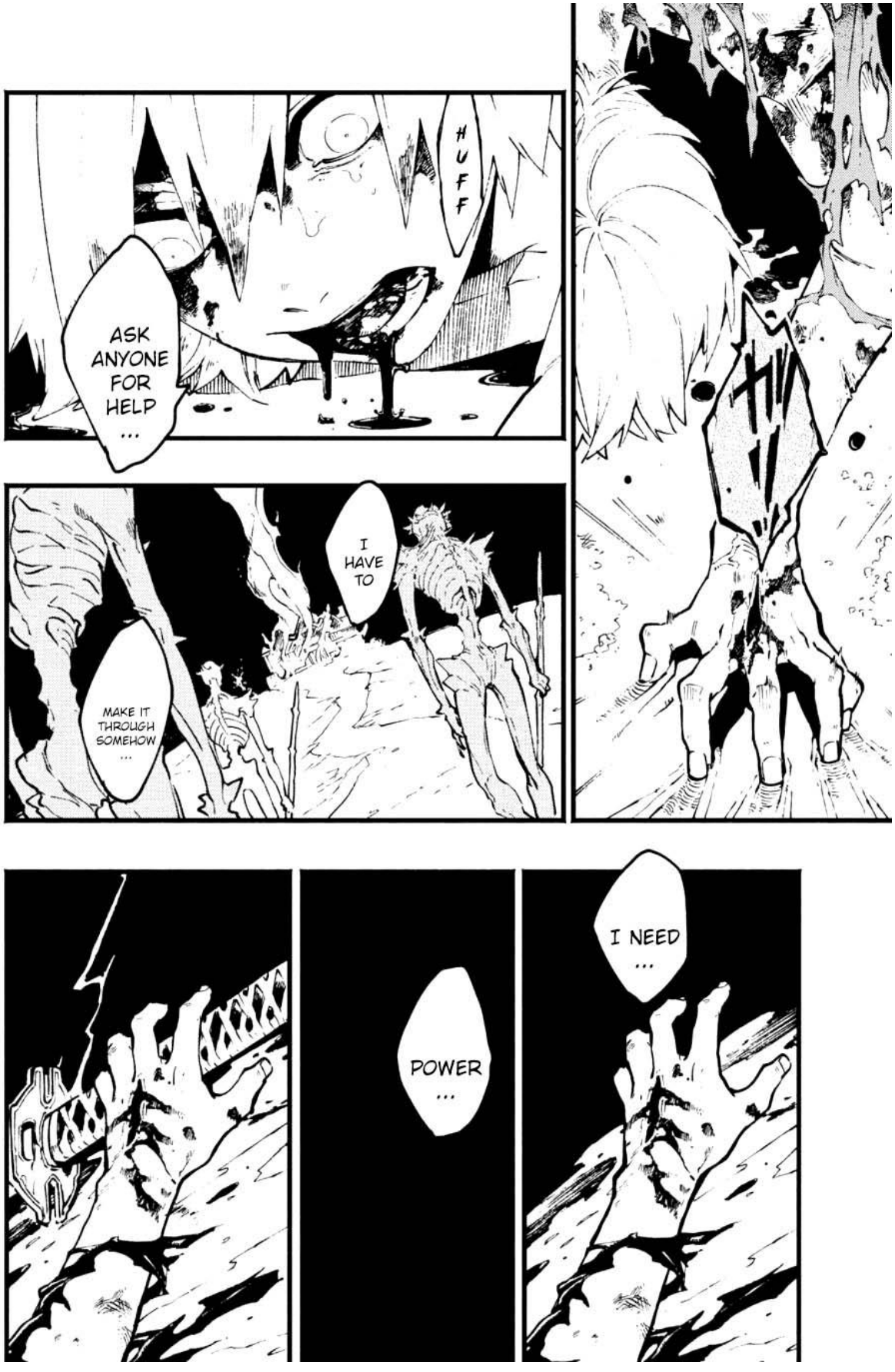
And here is the other time when Dante said that phrase, again being pleased that his big bro apparently wanted to engage in a sparring match with him, most likely thinking along the lines of “You wanted to have a sword fight as much as I wanted to, I knew you were gonna yield!”

Personally, this phrase said by Dante expresses how he enjoys that Vergil would play with him and that even though Vergil would show reluctance sometimes, he would still meet Dante’s expectations eventually, because Dante knows that his brother enjoys sparring just as much as Dante does.

Dante might have been bratty, annoying Vergil to play with him and perhaps a lot of times not taking into consideration what Vergil wanted to do (can’t blame him if he was exasperated sometimes by Dante), seemingly having this “I got my big brother wrapped around my little finger” attitude, but he was just a kid then and not having other friends, they were each other’s best friend, and for Dante to want Vergil’s companionship most of the time shows just how he loved him, that he looked up to his big brother.

<u>TRANSLATION NOTES (part 2)</u>

DON'T
...


HUFF
ASK ANYONE FOR HELP ...
I HAVE TO
MAKE IT THROUGH SOMEHOW ...
I NEED ...
POWER ...

So, while this particular line spoken by Vergil that I will talk about may not be major and in translation it sounds alright for how I wrote it so it could be more natural, because it might have sounded odd if I had written the version, the direct one that you will see further in the post.

I want to mention that there is a certain nuance there because of the way it was written in Japanese, to me it suggested something due to the way it was constructed, so you will see how it would have been translated directly.
The first time I read that line, it sounded peculiar, but I got an idea of what could be the intention behind it.

Don't…ask anyone for help…
誰も助けなんて求めるな。。。

The way that Vergil's line is written in Japanese, from a grammatical perspective, it suggests a negative command, an order to not do something, and this is interesting because Vergil was alone then. To whom could he have given an order?

The answer I concluded was that he was saying that to himself.
I reached that conclusion because I thought of a situation, something that I went through and perhaps you have also gone through.

Imagine that you are going through a tough time and maybe you don't have anyone to reach out to.
Did you have times when you were talking to yourself for reassurance? Saying things out loud such as "Don't be silly," "Stop thinking like that," and maybe sometimes even adding your own name after, because it's yourself you're speaking to.

Hopefully I made sense, basically that's sorta how I interpreted Vergil's line, I will translate it differently and make a note about something.

"Don't ask anyone for help…". So imagine he gives this order to himself
"Don't you (Vergil), ask for help."
See what I am getting at?

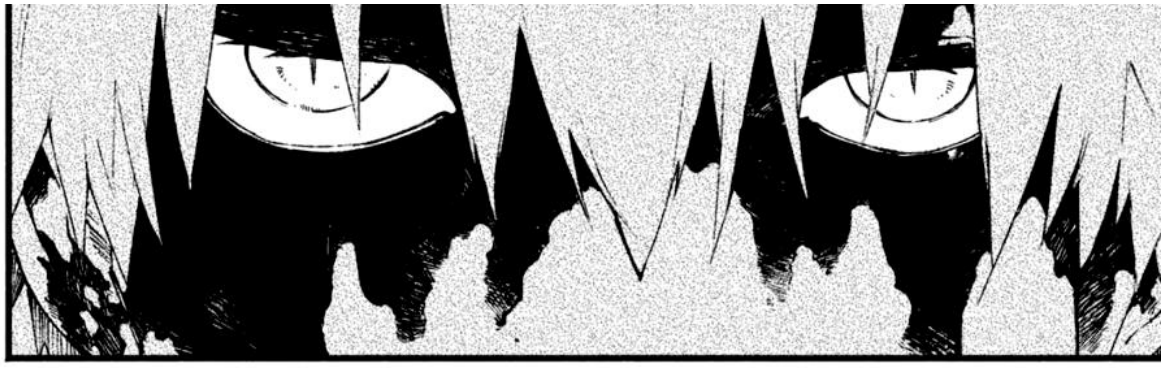
To me it said something about the fact that he was probably the type not to rely on help from others since he was a kid, that he'd rather do things himself.
It kind of sounded like he was reprimanding himself, that he was reminding himself that if he wants to get something done, he has to do it by himself.

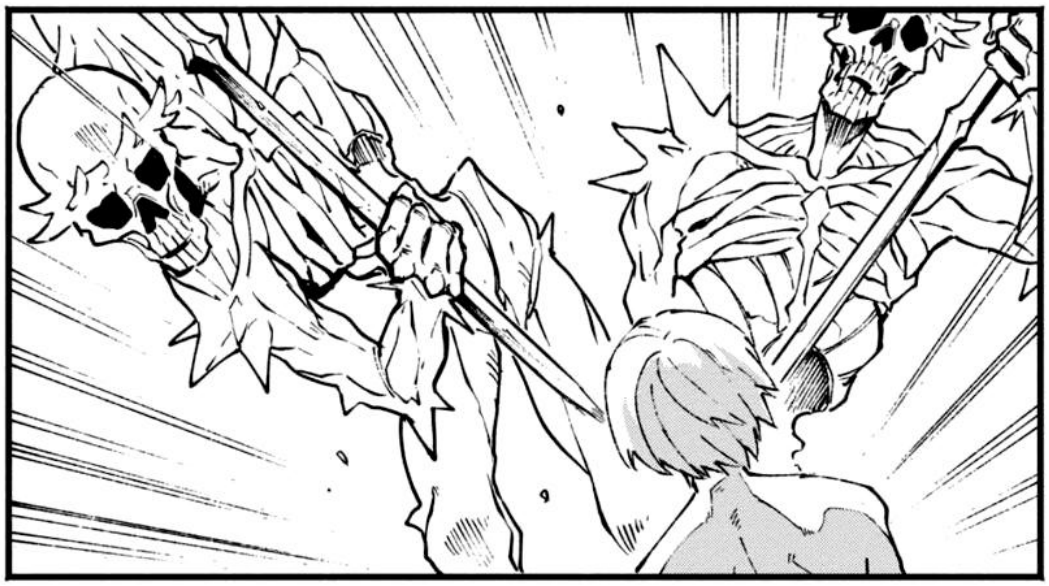
Furthermore, through the use of another word present in his line which is used for emphasis to express strong feelings about the subject, here, given the context it's about negative feelings, it would seem that the idea of "help" is something that Vergil is dismissive about.

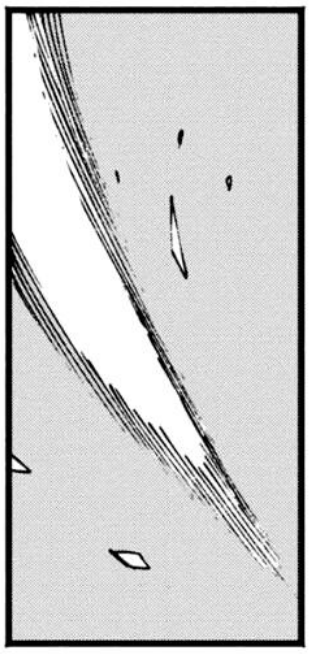
助けなんて求めるな。。。

助け (tasuke) means help/assistance and なんて (nante) is used to emphasize what is before it, to indicate that the speaker has strong emotions for, and often it is used to express disbelief, surprise (positive or negative) or contempt.
"A thing such as 'help', I do not seek", if you want a more literal interpretation of that line.

In this page here, he seems to be affirming that he won't seek help by saying "that's right" (or it can be 'yes')







I'LL DO THIS
ALONE ...

... THAT'S RIGHT,

So yeah, that line says something about him. Perhaps that the whole “I will do things by myself” can be from his status as the older sibling who had to project reliability, that he is the one to offer help, not to receive it, but despite that, back then, he also wanted to be helped.

Recall chapter 23 and the conversation with the little boy.

JUST AFTER YOU SPOKE OF WANTING TO PROTECT HER, DESPITE YOUR LACK OF STRENGTH ...
YOU'RE BEGGING FOR HELP BECAUSE YOU DON'T WANT TO RUN OR DIE HERE.
YOU'RE A GREEDY LITTLE THING, AREN'T YOU?
PLEASE, HELP US ...
S-SHUT UP.
SHUT UP, SHUT UP!
...
IS IT WRONG ?!
...NOTHING BUT PITIFUL REQUESTS.
AND YOU'RE SAYING THEM OUT LOUD, WITHOUT ANY SHAME.

I ALSO WANTED TO SAY ALL OF THOSE THINGS.
...
NO.

“Is it wrong?!
“No…I also wanted to say all of those things.”

Please do not copy-paste the lines that I translated from Japanese, such as the ones that I made for comparisons or my translation notes on your social media or take screenshots to use in videos. It applies to all of the translations that I made for DMC on my social media.

If you want to talk about differences in translation on your blog or videos and you might not understand my explanations, please ask me on social media, it’s better if you ask instead of assuming things, especially if you don’t know Japanese.

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